

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAMME

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

IODP³ SCIENCE EVALUATION PANEL CO-CHAIR (Science Subgroup)

Deadline: 8 January 2027

10 November 2026

Call for applications to serve as Co-Chair of the IODP^3 Science Evaluation Panel (Science Subgroup)

Introduction

The International Ocean Drilling Programme (IODP^3) addresses fundamental questions about Earth's climate, deep life, geodynamics, and geohazards and is driven by a flow of **scientific ocean drilling and SPARC proposals** provided by the scientific community. Our Panels and Boards are staffed via open, international, competitive selection processes to ensure that IODP^3 benefits from inputs from talented scientists while adhering to the highest standards of equality, diversity and social inclusivity.

The **Science Evaluation Panel** (SEP) is central to the success of IODP^3 and is responsible for the evaluation and selection of the best and most relevant proposals to forward to the IODP^3 Mission Specific Platform Facility Board (MSP-FB) for development of expedition schedules. SEP members are drawn from the international scientific ocean drilling communities in IODP^3 Core and Associate Member nations.

To evaluate the scientific and site characterisation aspects of drilling/coring proposals, SEP members are assigned to two subgroups, SEP-Science and SEP-Site, under the leadership of two Co-Chairs.

SEP-Science Subgroup members are responsible for: (i) evaluating scientific ocean drilling Preliminary Proposals and Full Proposals, including identifying Preliminary Proposals to move forward towards Full Proposals, and declining those proposals unlikely to succeed; and (ii) providing feedback to proposal proponents, including advising proponents on potential successful science strategies.

SEP-Site Subgroup members are responsible for: (i) reviewing and verifying the completeness and adequacy of site characterisation data packages for each drill site associated with drilling/coring proposals; and (ii) providing feedback to proponents on drilling strategies and giving guidance on meeting required standards of site characterization data.

All SEP members are involved in the evaluation of legacy asset-based SPARC proposals.

Eligibility and scientific expertise needs for this call

In this call, IODP^3 is seeking applications from active leading scientists from **all IODP^3 member nations**[†] to become the next **SEP Co-Chair and lead the SEP-Science Subgroup**. Applicants should have experience in a research field relevant to **IODP^3 science**.

Responsibilities

The role of the SEP-Science Co-Chair requires substantial dedicated time. The successful candidate is expected to co-lead and attend two SEP meetings per year (usually held in March/April and September, with one meeting in-person and one entirely virtual) and will receive logistical support for these meetings from the IODP^3 Science Office. They are also required to attend meetings of the MSP-FB (usually held once per year in May/June) and may also contribute to the annual Scientific Drilling Forum (by either in-person or virtual attendance).

The successful candidate will receive support for reasonable travel and subsistence costs associated with in-person meetings. In the case of an appointee from an ECORD nation, additional compensation for their time may also be made available.

The appointee will be expected to become the incoming SEP-Science Co-Chair on 1 March 2027 to shadow the current Co-Chair, Prof Masa Kinoshita, at the SEP meeting (in Europe) in early April 2027, the MSP-FB meeting (in Japan) in June 2027, and his final virtual SEP meeting in September 2027. They will then serve as the new SEP-Science Co-Chair for a three-year term (six SEP meetings) starting in January 2028.

How to Apply

Applications from scientists **based in IODP^3 Member nations**[†] must be submitted to the IODP^3 Science Office by the deadline of **23:59 GMT on Friday 8 January 2027** using the **IODP^3 Gateway** system, accessed via the **Apply to Participate** link on the **IODP^3 website**.

Information on the content required in applications to this call is available in the IODP^3 **Guide for Applicants**.

Applications received by the deadline will be evaluated by the IODP^3 Programme Member Offices and nominated candidates will be subsequently considered for approval in early 2027.

[†] The IODP^3 Member nations are: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

- For enquiries about SEP Co-Chair responsibilities and meetings, please contact: Masataka Kinoshita, SEP-Science Co-Chair, **masa@eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp**
- Stuart Henrys, SEP-Site Co-Chair, **stuart.henrys@earthsciences.nz**
- For enquiries about the application process and IODP^3 Gateway, please contact: Jodie Fisher, IODP^3 Science Office, **applications@iodp3.org**